



DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

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Contact: Rick Jenkins

Phone: (916) 735-1500

Disaster Assistance Available for Small Businesses

Sacramento, CA - Small, non-farm businesses in 36 California counties may now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These disaster loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by adverse weather conditions throughout the state, announced Alfred E. Judd, Director of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

Small businesses in the following primary and neighboring counties may apply for working capital loans to offset economic losses that are attributable to the impact of the following weather conditions and incident dates in each disaster:

EIDL	Primary Counties	Neighboring Counties	Incident Type	Incident Date	Deadline
10971	San Benito	Fresno, Merced, Monterey, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz	Drought	01/01/2007 and continuing	03/31/2008
10972	Santa Clara and Yolo	Alameda, Colusa, Lake, Merced, Napa, Sacramento, San Benito, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Solano, Stanislaus and Sutter	Drought	01/01/2007 and continuing	03/31/2008
10982	Alameda	Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Santa Clara and Stanislaus	Drought	10/01/2006 and continuing	04/09/2008
10984	Butte and Yuba	Colusa, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sierra, Sutter and Tehama	Unseasonably high temperatures and low humidity	03/07/2007 through 03/15/2007	04/09/2008
10985	Solano	Contra Costa, Napa, Sacramento, Sonoma and Yolo	Drought	12/01/2006 through 04/30/2007	04/09/2008
10986	Madera	Fresno, Mariposa, Merced, Mono and Tuolumne	Drought	10/15/2006 through 03/26/2007	04/09/2008
10987	Sacramento	Amador, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Placer, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter and Yolo	Drought	10/01/2006 through 04/30/2007	04/09/2008
10988	Tehama	Butte, Glenn, Mendocino, Plumas, Shasta and Trinity	Drought	11/01/2006 through 04/10/2007	04/09/2008

(more)

Small businesses may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$1.5 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred. “Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4%, a maximum term of 30 years, and are restricted to small businesses without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship,” Judd said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Secretary Mike Johanns declared these disasters at the request of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency (FSA) about the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assistance made available by the Secretary’s declaration. However, in drought disasters nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance.

For information and application forms call toll-free **(800) 659-2955**, or visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

For more information visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

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SBA Field Operations Center - West, P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841